



Subject: Rye Park Community Consultative Committee Meeting

Meeting Date: Wednesday 26th August 2015, 7pm.

Location: Yass Soldiers Memorial Hall

Present:

Nick Carmody (Chair); James Wheelwright (Upper Lachlan Shire Council); Michael Head (Trustpower); Nicola Foran (Trustpower); Chris Mackenzie Davey (Office of Environment and Heritage); Greg Medway; Graeme Privet; Bert Brass; Jim Fields; Andrew Fields.

Apologies:

Malcolm Day; Chris & Jenny Halley; (Note no representatives from Yass or Boorowa Councils).

Administration:

Minutes of last meeting (30 September 2014) at Rye Park Hall were tabled.

Chris and Jenny Halley have requested to no longer be members of the CCC. Three observers present, Chris Mackenzie Davey, Andrew Fields, Jim Fields.

Meeting Discussions and Notes:

Introductions and background to Trustpower given.

Project update: Trustpower took over in December 2014, and are now the official proponent of the Rye Park Wind Farm.

A number of changes have been made to the wind farm layout, including the removal of 18 turbines. This was done for environmental and noise management reasons. There are now 109 wind turbines. A new 132 kV transmission line has been introduced, which allows the wind farm to be built in two stages.

The applications will be re-submitted at the end of October and will go back out for public exhibition.

Trustpower are undertaking community engagement, including meeting with landowners within 2-3km of the wind farm, hosting a community information day (date tbc), and re-invigorating the CCC.



There is an 1800 number that people can ring and leave a message, and Trustpower staff will call them back. We are keeping records of all community engagement in a consultation management programme.

Q: Turbine locations, and which were removed?

Approximately 25 dwellings within 2km. "There will be dwellings within 2km"

Q: was the 2km buffer set on a 1.5MW turbine?

No, set on the presence of the tower, regardless of the size of the turbine. Discussion on the 2km ' buffer/setback, and the lack of scientific data to justify it. There is no 2km requirement in NSW. Noted that the Victorian government has just removed the requirement to have agreement with neighboring landowners within 2km of a turbine.

Maps with dwellings within 2km, All dwellings (that we are aware of) will be noise compliant.

Q: How close to we propose with put a turbine to a house?

Approximately 1.4 km between a turbine and a non-involved dwelling.

Q: How close is the closest turbine to an involved dwelling?

Q: Will we be lodging the application with all landowner agreements?

Yes, all involved landowners have signed, including for access roads, transmission lines and substations. *(Pretty sure anyway)

Trustpower will be selective in which turbines are built first if it is built in stages. We will need to secure power purchase agreements first. Other factors influencing this include potential federal government changes, and RET changes.

Micro siting: concerns that ability to micro site may be removed from the approval. Trustpower have 'ground trothed location; nut may have to micro site around 50-100m come construction.

Q: Location to School? Existing operational wind farm in close proximity to a school?

Not a Trustpower wind farm, by Taralga is located within a couple kilometers of the local primary school.

Studies? 1.5MW, health studies / noise studies, set backs to schools.

Maximum tip height 157m



Noise modeling done on a V112 representative 'noisy' turbine, a conservative / worst case scenario approach is taken to doing the noise modelling. The wind farm needs to be noise compliant with all non-involved dwellings.

Q: Independence of experts? All independent, and have to uphold their professional integrity, and abide by their professional institutes code of ethics.

Q: Cost of compliance monitoring? Ultimately Trustpower foots the bill for compliance monitoring. Noise compliance and complaints process.

Traffic Movements:

Reduced the roads needed for heavy haulage / over dimensional loads.

Agreement in principal with the three councils over which roads will be used, upgrading requirements and maintenance etc.

Loads will likely come from Port Kembla, and go through Boorowa and then either left or right at Rye Park.

Concrete plant at Coolalie Road, and one in the north and center of the wind farm (being determined now).

Still to confirm a source of water, but will be construction contractors task to do.

Construction timeframe of around 2 years.

Will be speed limits imposed on construction traffic. Restrictions on times for over dimensional truck movements. No over dimensional loads during school bus hours.

Decommissioning:

All above ground infrastructure will be removed at Trustpower's cost. This requirement is built into the Development Approval. Concrete foundations will remain in place, and likely top soiled and grassed over. Volume of concrete slabs? Around 15 x 15 x 3 m in dimensions (depending on site specific conditions).

Efficiencies of wind farms.

Commissioning new turbines at the end of wind farm life vs. removing the infrastructure.

Community Enhancement Fund:

Approximately \$280k will be paid annually into the fund. Available to be spend on any community project within a 10km radius of the wind farm.

Neighboring Benefits Scheme beign offered to owners of existing dwellings within 2km of a turbine. This will be for \$2500 annually. Landowner decides whether to accept or not, and if does not accept, then that money goes back into the Community Enhancement Fund.

The scheme is voluntary, Trustpower does not need neighbors agreements for planning applications.

JW: noted that is was commendable the Trustpower are offering this to the neighbors, but felt the funds should be taken form the C.E.F.



Q: shouldn't the find be paid per turbine per dwelling. (Ie a dwelling should be paid per the number of turbines).

CMD: Supports the Neighboring Benefits Scheme but recognizes that it is not the perfect model.

Property value discussion.

Trustpower to type up minutes and circulate.

Trustpower to prepare agenda for next meeting.

Next meeting scheduled for Wednesday 30 September at 7pm.

Meeting closed 8.50pm.